Annual Report 2003-2004

Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development

Manitoba Round Table
for Sustainable Development

Protecting & Managing *our Future*

Manitoba
Building for the Future

Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development

Annual Report 2003 – 2004

(1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004)

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Honourable Peter M. Liba, C.M., O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba
Room 235 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8

Your Honour:

This report marks another year of the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development in its legislated role of promoting sustainable development in Manitoba and providing advice and recommendations to government in accordance with the Sustainable Development Act.

This year the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development was pleased to award a scholarship of $5,000.00 to an individual whose thesis area is in indoor air quality and resource and energy efficient building construction. Having worked with a local construction company, she became interested in the links between the built environment and human health. This research will help Manitoba move towards its goal of sustainability and has the potential to generate economic, social, and ecological benefits in the short and long term.

I am pleased to present Your Honour with the 2003 - 2004 Annual Report for the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development.

Sincerely,

Stan Struthers

Honourable Stan Struthers
Chair

INTRODUCTION

The Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development was established on proclamation of ***The Sustainable Development Act*** on July 1, 1998. This is the ***2003-2004 Annual Report*** of the Manitoba Round Table as required by *Section 4* of the *Act*.

MANITOBA ROUND TABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development is an advisory body to the government of Manitoba. Their role is to advise and support decision-makers in making responsible resource, land use, environmental, social and economic development decisions. The Manitoba Round Table is an integral component of the province's Sustainable Development Strategy.

Members of the Manitoba Round Table are appointed by the Minister of Conservation through Order-in-Council. Bringing a broad range of experience and technical expertise, and representing regions and sectors of the province, Manitoba Round Table members contribute to sound and informed implementation of sustainable development strategies in every aspect of public administration. To reflect government's commitment to sustainable development and to emphasize the cross-departmental responsibilities in implementation, six cabinet ministers serve as members of the Manitoba Round Table. Membership remained at twenty-five throughout the year.

The Manitoba Round Table met in July 2003 (including a conference call) and March 2004.

DUTIES OF THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE

The duties of the Manitoba Round Table, as legislated by *The Sustainable Development Act* are:

- Creating awareness and understanding of sustainable development;
- Cooperating with public-sector organizations, private industry, non-government organizations and the public to share knowledge and experience;
- Reviewing the principles and guidelines of sustainable development to ensure that they are comprehensive and contemporary;
- Advising on development and review of the Sustainable Development Strategy;
- Advising on development and review of sustainability indicators;
- At the request of the minister, reviewing existing or proposed policy, legislation, regulations or programs for consistency with the principles and guidelines, and reporting to the minister with recommendations;
- Establishing mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating implementation of sustainable development strategies and activities; and
- Other tasks and activities related to sustainable development, at the request of the minister.

POWERS OF THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE

The Manitoba Round Table may:

- Make its own rules of procedure, including procedures of committees;
- Identify, promote and encourage projects and activities that exemplify sustainable development practices;
- Initiate, sponsor and support seminars, workshops, and conferences related to sustainable development;
- Conduct studies and investigations, and advise and make recommendations to the minister on matters related to sustainable development, other than matters involving the gathering of evidence to determine whether or not specific persons or bodies are complying with the provisions of the act and the regulations;
- Publish reports and other materials; and
- Do all things necessary to the effective carrying out of its duties under *The Sustainable Development Act*.

MEMBERS

Honourable Steve Ashton, Chair, Minister of Conservation

Mr. Carl Braun, Ketaskinow Technical Field Works, member of Aboriginal Resource Council, Thompson

Mr. Gord Collis, Environmental Consultant, Brandon

Mr. Bill Elliott, President and CEO, Fort Whyte Centre for Environmental Education, Winnipeg

Honourable Jean Friesen, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Mr. Richard Gaywish, Aboriginal Resource Council, Winnipeg

Mr. Dwayne Hamilton, Brown Byre Farms, Glenboro

Mr. David Hatch, President, Green Spaces Environmental Consulting, Winnipeg

Ms. Judy Head, Swampy Cree Tribal Council, The Pas

Mr. Ed Huebert, Executive Vice-President, Mining Association of Manitoba, Winnipeg

Honourable Oscar Lathlin, Minister of Aboriginal & Northern Affairs

Mr. Doug Lauvstad, Director of Planning and External Relations, Keewatin Community College, The Pas

Ms. Bev Leadbeater, Rock Lake Community Round Table, Crystal City

Honourable Ron Lemieux, Minister of Education, Training and Youth

Ms. Jillian Maguet, Supervisor, Riding Mountain National Park, Onanole

Dr. Peter Miller, Professor, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg

Ms. Rebecca Nepinak, Chairperson and Representative of the Youth Round Table

Ms. Maureen Prendiville, President, Prendiville Industries, Winnipeg

Ms. Connie Pringle, Director of Operations, Inter-Universities North, Thompson

Dr. William Pruitt, Professor of Zoology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

Dr. David Punter, Professor and Head of Botany Department, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

Honourable Tim Sale, Minister of Energy, Science & Technology

Mr. Dan Soprovich, Wildlife Ecologist, Swan River

Mr. Art Sparling, P. Eng., Winnipeg

Honourable Rosann Wowchuk, Minister of Agriculture and Food

Honourable Steve Ashton

Steve Ashton was first elected to the Manitoba Legislature in 1981. He was re-elected in the general elections of 1986, 1988, 1990, 1995 and 1999. He was appointed Minister of Highways and Government Services in October, 1999 (later changed to Transportation and Government Services) and Minister responsible for The Gaming Control Act in July, 2000. He was appointed Minister responsible for Emergency Measures in October 2001. In September 2002, Steve was appointed Minister of Conservation. Steve is a graduate of R.D. Parker Collegiate in Thompson. He received a B.A. (Hon.) in Political Studies at the University of Manitoba and a M.A. in Economics from Lakehead University.

Mr. Carl Braun

Carl is from Wabowden and currently operates Ketaksinow Technical Fieldworks Consulting. He currently holds contracts with the Nelson House Fishermen's Association, and the Nelson River Sturgeon Co-management Board. He is and has worked with industry, First Nations communities, Tribal Councils and Aboriginal and non-aboriginal organizations on numerous contracts and projects.

Mr. Gord Collis

Gord is an environmental consultant and Chemical Engineer with 37 years in the phosphate and nitrogen fertilizer industry across Western Canada. He has participated in environmental and safety audits in Canada and the US. Gord has sat on numerous boards and committees, including: Minister's Advisory Council, Workplace Health and Safety, Manitoba Contaminated Sites, Environmental Act Approvals, Pollution Prevention Recognition and Awards, Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment and COSDI, to name a few. He has testified at numerous Clean Environment Commission, National Energy Board and Manitoba Public Utilities Board hearings on environment, natural gas and electric power issues. He was a founding member, then Chair, Environment Committee, Canadian Fertilizer Institute.

Mr. Bill Elliott

Bill is President and CEO of the Fort Whyte Centre for Environmental Education. Prior to working at Fort Whyte, Bill was employed by Ducks Unlimited Canada as a Habitat Development Biologist, followed by five-years as Development Co-ordinator with the Delta Waterfowl Foundation.

Honourable Jean Friesen

Jean Friesen (Edwards) was elected as MLA for Wolseley in 1990 and re-elected in 1995 and 1999. She has served as opposition critic for Urban Affairs, Labour, Culture and Education. Jean was appointed as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs in 1999 and also serves as Manitoba's Deputy Premier. Jean grew up in England and was educated at McGill University and the University of British Columbia. She came to Manitoba in 1973 where she has been a professor of history and head of University College at the University of Manitoba. She has served as Chair of the Manitoba Heritage Council, Editor of *Manitoba History*, and as a Director of the Forks Renewal Corporation.

Mr. Richard Gaywish

Richard Gaywish is a member of the Rolling River First Nation. He is self employed as a project manager, and operates First Nation Project Management Inc. He has twenty-eight years of experience in working with aboriginal groups throughout Manitoba, in the areas of project management, policy development, business planning, tourism, and cultural preservation.

Mr. Dwayne Hamilton

Dwayne owns and operates Brown Byre Farms, located on Ducks Unlimited's original Goodman Project. He was a member of the Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation (COSDI) core group representing agriculture. He served as Vice-President of Keystone Agriculture Producers, acts as Chairman of the Heartland Livestock Advisory Committee and is a member of the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation.

Mr. David Hatch

David is president of Green Spaces Environmental Consulting, engaging in environmental consulting across Canada. He is also president of Aurora Canada Tours, an ecotourism company conducting nature tours around the world.

Ms. Judy Head

Judy has worked in various administrative management positions for 30 years. Judy's expertise is in the area of Lands and Trusts as they relate to First Nations communities. This involves policy development and implementation of the *First Nations Land Management Act*, First Nations Land Tax bylaws and First Nations Comprehensive and specific land claims. Judy works with Swampy Cree Tribal Council.

Mr. Ed Huebert

Ed is Executive Vice-President of the Mining Association of Manitoba and the Mines Accident Prevention Association of Manitoba. He sits on various committees including the Manitoba Labour Board, Worker's Compensation Board, World Wildlife Fund of Canada, Building Partnerships Working Group and Mineral Exploration Liaison Committee. Ed was a member of the COSDI core group and has previously been employed with Manitoba Energy and Mines.

Honourable Oscar Lathlin

In 1990, Oscar was elected as member of the legislature for The Pas, and re-elected in 1995 and 1999. While in opposition, Oscar held several critic portfolios, including: Natural Resources, Northern Affairs, Native Affairs, and the Community Economic Development Fund. Mr. Lathlin was also appointed on two separate occasions to represent the NDP on Manitoba's Constitutional Task Force. Following an NDP return to government in Manitoba, Oscar was appointed to Cabinet in the new Ministry of Conservation. As a Chief of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Mr. Lathlin has served on various committees of the Assembly of First Nations. As well, Mr. Lathlin has served as a member of the Policy Advisory Committee of the Brandon University Native Teacher Education Program.

Mr. Doug Lauvstad

Doug is Director of Planning and External Relations at Keewatin Community College in The Pas, and has held a number of senior management positions at the College since 1988. He has lived and worked in northern Manitoba most of his life. Doug has extensive experience in northern economic development initiatives and is also currently Managing Director of the Northern Forest Diversification Centre. This project is designed to encourage and develop sustainable economic

activities in remote northern communities using local resources for the benefit of local residents. Doug is also finishing a MBA program through Athabasca University.

Ms. Bev Leadbeater

Bev has been employed for ten years as a bookkeeper for two pharmacies in southern Manitoba. Bev has been actively involved with her local Round Table initiative since its onset in 1993, serving as Vice-Chair, Chair and Secretary. Bev and her family operate a mixed farm on the Canada-US border.

Honourable Ron Lemieux

Prior to becoming the Minister of Education and Youth, Ron also served as the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism, Minister responsible for Sport, and Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. He also served as a member of Treasury Board, the Community and Economic Development Committee of Cabinet, as well as the Healthy Child and Neighborhoods Committee of Cabinet.

Mr. Lemieux was an educator for over 14 years prior to his election and was employed as a provincial civil servant.

Ms. Jillian Maguet

Jillian has been employed as a Supervisor at Riding Mountain National Park for the past four years. She was a member of the previous Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development. Jillian currently is the Chair of the Education and Communication. Her interest in the Manitoba Round Table issues comes from her strong background in communication, agriculture and in working with groups of varied interests.

Dr. Peter Miller

Peter is Professor, Senior Scholar and past Chair of Philosophy and member of the Centre for Forest Interdisciplinary Research at the University of Winnipeg. He is also an adjunct Professor in the Natural Resources Institute and the Department of Philosophy at the University of Manitoba. Dr. Miller is a Vice-President of T.R.E.E. (Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems), a Vice-President of the Manitoba Model Forest, and past President of the Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics. He received his Ph.D. in Philosophy from Yale University.

Ms. Rebecca Nepinak

Rebecca is from the Pine Creek First Nation and has been a role model to her peers in the Aboriginal community. Her desire to learn about the condition of the countries she visited allowed her increased knowledge on sustainable development.

Ms. Maureen Prendiville

Maureen is President of Prendiville Industries, a 50-year old resource-based family business with locations in Thompson, Birch River, Neepawa and Winnipeg. Since joining Prendiville Industries in 1973, she has been involved in many business and community organizations including Channel Area Loggers, Young Presidents Organization, Manitoba Business Council and the Canadian Association of Family Enterprises. Maureen was a member of the International Trade Advisory Committee during the Canada-USA Free Trade Agreement negotiations.

Ms. Connie Pringle

Connie is Director of Operations, Inter-Universities North in Thompson. She has a Master's Degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor's Degree in Home Economics. Connie has extensive business, management and financial experience and has worked for Keewatin
Community College, Northern Manitoba Business Institute, Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Swampy Cree Tribal Council and Northern Manpower Training Corps.

Dr. William Pruitt

William is Professor of Zoology at the University of Manitoba. He has worked extensively in the Boreal Forest in Manitoba and is Founder and Director of the TAIGA Biological Station. He has travelled abroad and has experience in northern ecosystems around the world.

Dr. David Punter

David is Professor and Head of the Department of Botany at the University of Manitoba. He is President of the Manitoba Association of Plant Biologists, and a member of the Canadian

Phytopathological Society, Canadian Botanical Association and the British Mycological Society. His interests include diseases of forest trees, sustainable utilization of non-timber forest products and conservation of rare and endangered plant species.

Honourable Tim Sale

Tim was appointed to the new portfolio of Minister of Science, Energy and Technology September 25, 2002. Previously he served as Minister of Family Services and Housing and NDP Critic for Industry, Trade and Tourism. Tim served as an Assistant Deputy Minister of Education from 1987 - 1989, and before that as a Senior Policy Analyst for the Manitoba Government in the Finance Department. From 1976 to 1985 he was CEO of the Social Planning Council. Tim taught at both the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg in the field of economics, health policy and management.

Mr. Dan Soprovich

Dan is a Wildlife Ecologist with Bluestem Wildlife Services. He worked for the Government of Manitoba as a Wildlife Biologist, a Population Ecologist and a Wildlife Technician for fifteen years. He has extensive work experience with Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl Research Station, University of Manitoba and Canadian Wildlife Services.

Mr. Art Sparling

Art worked for the Government of Manitoba and was Chief Engineer for the Clean Environment Commission. He taught Civil Engineering at the University of Manitoba (1971-1993) and did extensive research in waste management and, in particular, solid waste disposal. Art is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geological Scientists of Manitoba.

Honourable Rosann Wowchuk

Prior to her election in 1990 for Swan River, Rosann worked as an organizer for the New Democratic Party. She was re-elected in 1995 and 1999. Rosann was appointed as Minister of Agriculture in 1999 and was critic for Agriculture, Crop Insurance and the Agriculture Credit Corporation and deputy critic for Rural Economic Development. Rosann trained at Manitoba Teachers College and taught at several area schools. She has a great deal of experience in serving her community, as Councillor and Deputy Reeve of Local Government District of Mountain (1983-1990), Chair of the Cowan Soil and Water Co-op, Vice-Chair of the North West Soil Management Association.

PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE, 2003-2004

The Manitoba Round Table continued to keep abreast of sustainability issues over the 2003-2004 fiscal year. An update of these issues is provided in this section.

East Side Planning Process

The East Side Lake Winnipeg Round Table, in conjunction with the First Nation Council and East Side Advisory Committee, formulated a consultation plan to obtain information from all interested parties. Consultation was to be completed by September, 2003. Two members of the Manitoba Round Table are members of the East Side Round Table.

Sustainable Development Scholarship

The Sustainable Development Scholarship, established in 1996, annually awards a scholarship to a post-secondary student in Manitoba pursuing studies and undertaking research that embraces the spirit and principles of sustainable development. It is open to students in any field of study offered at an approved Manitoba post-secondary institution. A single non-renewable scholarship of $5,000 is awarded to cover cost of tuition, books, fees and other education expenses. The 2003-04 Sustainable Development Scholarship was awarded to Ms. Roselle Miko. Ms. Miko is currently enrolled as a Masters candidate at the Natural Resource Institute at the University of Manitoba. Her thesis area is indoor air quality and resource and energy efficient building construction. In addition to the monetary award, Roselle was also named an International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Scholar and will receive special privileges at IISD.

MANITOBA YOUTH ROUND TABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The mission of the Youth Round Table is to apply young people's unique perspective to the task of ensuring that future generations have clean, safe and healthy air, land and water in which to live, work and play. Members of the Youth Round Table for 2003 - 2004 were as follows:

Ms. Leanne Anderson, Winnipeg
Mr. Christopher Andrews, God's Lake Narrows
Ms. Margot Block, Winnipeg
Ms. Tiffany Burns, The Pas
Ms. Joy de Castro, Winnipeg
Ms. Diana Glenn, Strathclair
Mr. David Huck, Snow Lake
Ms. Marta Keller, Winnipeg
Ms. Julia Magnuson-Ford, Stonewall
Ms. Rebecca Nepinak, Winnipeg (Chair)
Mr. Mitch Obach, Wawanesa
Mr. Barrette Jason Timothy Plett, Winnipeg
Mr. Matthew D. Skinner, Brandon
Mr. Laren Bill, Winnipeg

Projects the YRT have interest in:

- establishing a Youth Round Table Web site
- educate young Manitobans in all areas concerning sustainable development
- encourage youth participation in sustainable development educational events

Rebecca Nepinak is presently the Chair of the Youth Round Table, and as Chair, sits as a member of the Manitoba Round Table.

COMMITTEES OF THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE

Priority issues and responsibilities of the Manitoba Round Table are handled most effectively by a committee structure. Five committees were established for the Manitoba Round Table. They are listed below.

Sustainable Development Policy/Strategy Committee

Planning and Assessment Committee

Environmental Quality/Economic Development Committee

Education and Communication Committee

Human Settlement Committee

STAFF SUPPORT

David Jopling – Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs

Karen McRobbie – Manitoba Conservation

Luke Peloquin – Manitoba Conservation

Christine Tymchak – Manitoba Conservation

Christina McDonald - Manitoba Education, Training and Youth

Sonya Janzen - Manitoba Education, Training and Youth

APPENDIX

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Principles:

Integration of Environmental and Economic Decisions

1(1) Economic decisions should adequately reflect environmental, human health and social effects.

1(2) Environmental and health initiatives should adequately take into account economic, human health and social consequences.

Stewardship

2(1) The economy, the environment, human health and social well-being should be managed for the equal benefit of present and future generations.

2(2) Manitobans are caretakers of the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being for the benefit of present and future generations.

2(3) Today's decisions are to be balanced with tomorrow's effects.

Shared Responsibility and Understanding

3(1) Manitobans should acknowledge responsibility for sustaining the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being, with each being accountable for decisions and actions in a spirit of partnership and open cooperation.

3(2) Manitobans share a common economic, physical and social environment.

3(3) Manitobans should understand and respect differing economic and social views, values, traditions and aspirations.

3(4) Manitobans should consider the aspirations, needs and views of the people of the various geographical regions and ethnic groups in Manitoba, including Aboriginal peoples, to facilitate equitable management of Manitoba's common resources.

Prevention

4 Manitobans should anticipate, and prevent or mitigate, significant adverse economic, environmental, human health and social effects of decisions and actions, having particular careful regard to decisions whose impacts are not entirely certain but which, on reasonable and well-informed grounds, appear to pose serious threats to the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being.

Conservation and Enhancement

5 Manitobans should

(a) maintain the ecological processes, biological diversity and life-support systems of the environment;

(b) harvest renewable resources on a sustainable yield basis;

(c) make wise and efficient use of renewable and non-renewable resources; and

(d) enhance the long-term productive capability, quality and capacity of natural ecosystem.

Rehabilitation and Reclamation

6 Manitobans should

(a) endeavour to repair damage to or degradation of the environment; and

(b) consider the need for rehabilitation and reclamation in future decisions and actions.

Global Responsibility

7 Manitobans should think globally when acting locally, recognizing that there is economic, ecological and social interdependence among provinces and nations, and working cooperatively, within Canada and internationally, to integrate economic, environmental, human health and social factors in decision-making while developing comprehensive and equitable solutions to problems.

Guidelines:

Efficient Use of Resources - which means

(a) encouraging and facilitating development and application of systems for proper resource pricing, demand management and resource allocation together with incentives to encourage efficient use of resources; and

(b) employing full-cost accounting to provide better information for decision makers.

Public Participation - which means

(a) establishing forums which encourage and provide opportunity for consultation and meaningful participation in decision-making processes by Manitobans;

(b) endeavouring to provide due process, prior notification and appropriate and timely redress for those adversely affected by decisions and actions; and

(c) striving to achieve consensus amongst citizens with regard to decisions affecting them.

Access to Information - which means

(a) encouraging and facilitating the improvement and refinement of economic, environmental, human health and social information; and

(b) promoting the opportunity for equal and timely access to information by all Manitobans.

Integrated Decision Making and Planning - which means

encouraging and facilitating decision making and planning processes that are efficient, timely, accountable and cross-sectoral and which incorporate an inter-generational perspective of future needs and consequences.

Waste Minimization and Substitution - which means

(a) encouraging and promoting the development and use of substitutes for scarce resources where such substitutes are both environmentally sound and economically viable; and

(b) reducing, reusing, recycling and recovering the products of society.

Research and Innovation - which means

encouraging and assisting the researching, development, application and sharing of knowledge and technologies which further our economic, environmental, human health and social well-being.